

11-18-1919

## Letter from May-ling Soong Chiang, 1919-11-18, Shanghai, China, to Emma Mills

May-ling Soong Chiang

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## Letter from May-ling Soong Chiang, 1919-11-18, Shanghai, China, to Emma Mills

### Transcription

30 Seymour Road  
Shanghai,  
18 November, 1919

Dear Dada,

I wonder what you think is the matter with me that I have not written for so long. I really would like to explain only my excuse sounds so trivial, namely that I have been tremendously busy and altho I have thought of you and have wished for your presence, I have not had the time to myself sufficiently to sit down to dash off a note to you.

I think I have told you have I not, that I have been elected Vice Pres of the American College Women's Club of Shanghai and as the total membership of the club is over one hundred I have had quite a time trying to get acquainted with each one of them personally. I am going to entertain the whole Club this coming Tuesday at my home. Then too my sister Mrs. Kung is the President of the largest association in Shanghai for Chinese women, the McTyiere Sorority, and as I am the Sec, I have a lot to do besides helping her. I tell you, really then too during the last month I have been out to dinner or had guests six nights a week, and besides innumerable teas and theatres. I am also studying Chinese besides helping at the Girls' Club at the Y.W. The schools in Shanghai are in need of teachers and really some of them made me very attractive offers, but I am so swamped with work as it is now that I am not getting enough sleep. My circle of friends in Shanghai is really getting to be almost too huge for me to be able to keep up with them. The funny thing is that when I do have a moment to myself now, I am so awfully restless that I cannot sit still. I think that perhaps I have been overdoing, for besides all these things, I am trying to settle a serious question in my mind. I do not know what the outcome will be, but I think I know, and when I am absolutely sure I shall let you know. In the meanwhile, I just have to weigh matters carefully from every point possible.

I am enjoying myself tremendously too. Only sometimes I become quite conscience-stricken when I think how little time I stay with Mother. We have been having Russian Grand Opera here and I have been to six or seven different performances.

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I wish you could get a look at my engagement book, yes  
Dada I had to get one to keep my dates straight. You would think that  
I am a regular butterfly.

The Returned Women Students have a Club here of about  
thirty members, and some of them want to put me up as the Pres, but  
I do not want the job because it is too much work and besides the  
responsibility is tremendous. Aside from these considerations, I feel  
that while I can gab as well as anyone there, I really am terribly  
immature inside. Besides it is all over Shanghai that I am the power  
behind the members who rooted one President out [t] because she elected  
herself in an illegal way. And while I do think that it is mighty  
funny the way she got the position, I certainly do not want anyone  
to think that if I had anything to do with the matter, it was be-  
cause I want the job myself. Of course I cannot convince people  
that I had nothing to do with the matter of calling for a legal  
election, and so I have decided to let the matter rest.

Anyway, did you know I was supposed to be a very deep  
wire puller? It is all nonsense of course.

Love,

Daughter

30 Seymour Road,  
Shanghai,  
18 November, 1910.

Dearest Dada,

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